

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 have been rejected. Claim 8 has been amended.

Claims 8-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Call (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0143521) in view of Vincent, III (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0268240) and further in view of Gombocz et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0156792). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

The independent claims include the feature of synchronizing the storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing the data store with data sources that implement proprietary protocols (see application as originally filed, beginning at page 102, for example). This feature is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

The Office Action acknowledges that Call does not teach or suggest synchronizing a storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing a data store with data sources that implement proprietary protocols (Office Action, page 4, lines 17-19). Vincent, III fails to cure this deficiency.

The Office Action states that Gombocz (paragraphs [0184] and [0205]) teaches synchronizing a storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing a data store with data sources that implement proprietary protocols. It is respectfully submitted that Gombocz, like the other prior art, fails to disclose or suggest such features, however.

In particular, Gombocz describes data object translation, standardization, access, and routing. Protocols may also be defined and customized (Abstract). Object-to-intelligent object synchronization is described, along with query result synchronization (paragraph [0184]). However, neither of these types of synchronization go towards storage platform synchronization or data store - data source synchronization. Additionally, paragraph [0205]

describes a legacy synchronization interface which generally describes various synchronization functions. There is no teaching or suggestion in this general description, however, of synchronizing a storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing a data store with data sources that implement proprietary protocols, as recited in the claims. Thus, the prior art, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or suggest these features of the claims.

The Office Action further states that it would have been obvious to modify Call to include a synchronization service as taught by Gombocz because it allows for access optimization across heterogeneous data platforms. However, if Call were modified to include the legacy synchronization interface of Gombocz, or any of the synchronization functions of Gombocz, the claimed invention would not result. Instead, because Call is directed to storing both fixed and variable length data as an addressable array of integer values organized to permit more efficient execution of processing, any synchronization would be performed on the fixed and variable length data itself, and not between storage platforms, and not between a data store and with data sources that implement proprietary protocols.

Claims 8 and 13 include similar features to those described above with respect to claim 1. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 8, and 13 should not be rejected as being unpatentable over Call in view of Vincent, III and Gombocz et al. Thus, claims 1, 8, and 13 are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 are dependent from claim 1, claims 9 and 12 are dependent from claim 8, and claim 14 is dependent from claim 13, and are therefore allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Call in view of Vincent, III, Gombocz et al., and Freyssinet et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,564). Claims 4 and 5 are dependent from claim 1, claims 10 and 11 are dependent from claim 8, and claims 15 and 16 are dependent from claim 13, and are therefore patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1, 8, and 13. Freyssinet fails to cure the deficiencies of Call, Vincent, III, and Gombocz. Freyssinet describes data routing and transformation but does not teach or suggest synchronizing a storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing a data store with data sources that implement

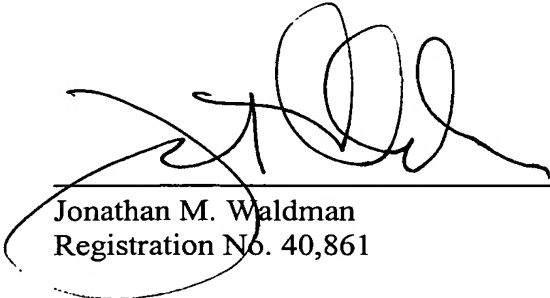
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proprietary protocols. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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